

TORRANCE NEWS ITEMS

Miss Ruby Herring was a dinner guest Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Currier of Spurlin Court.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Flood of Park Terrace have rented the J. R. Winters home on Gramercy avenue.

Mrs. N. K. Wood returned on Thursday from the Pasadena Hospital and is improving rapidly.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Tolson of Los Angeles were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Tolson.

Miss Elsie Woodward has accepted a position in the bonus department of the Union Tool Company.

Mrs. Chas. Wolverson of Lugon is here visiting her husband for the holiday season. He is an employee of the Glass Works.

Mrs. Marvin H. Lee of South Pasadena spent last week with her mother, Mrs. George S. Wheaton of North Arlington avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Tolson went to Pasadena on Sunday, where they joined Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Shafer, and all motored to Ontario to visit Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Mansfield. In the evening they returned by way of Pasadena, where they attended the theatre.

Mrs. Nettie Steinhilber and Mrs. Gilbert Goulic entertained the officers of the Macabee Lodge Saturday evening by forming a theatre party and attending the Torrance Theatre, and afterwards a luncheon at the home of Mrs. Goulics.

The regular meeting of the Sigma-Chi-Rho class at the Central church was held at the home of Miss Helen Tiffany Tuesday evening on Arlington avenue. After the meeting they enjoyed a social evening.

Mrs. J. R. Winters and children and Mrs. A. Garton of Gramercy avenue left yesterday on a trip east. Mrs. Winters will visit relatives in Pennsylvania and Mrs. Garton goes to Ohio. They will be gone several months.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Bartlett, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Bartlett and Miss Grace Bartlett, all of South Gramercy avenue, were guests Sunday of Mrs. Horace Hale of Euclid avenue, Pasadena. Mrs. Hale entertained in honor of Mrs. Mary Bartlett, who celebrated her ninety-seventh birthday anniversary.

BOAR'S HEAD AT CHRISTMAS

Ancient Custom Which is Now Believed to Be Observed Only at Oxford University.

Ringing in the boar's head at Yuletide is not celebrated widely in Great Britain today, and probably the only place where it survives with something of its old-time glory is Queen's college, Oxford University.

The custom is believed to antedate Christianity; in fact, it is said to have come down to Englishmen from the Druids, the Detroit News recalls. Freya, goddess of peace and plenty, is always represented as riding a boar, and the Druid priests are believed to have made yearly sacrifices of boars to this divinity in order to win her good will.

At Queen's the procession of the boar's head forms in the buttery. A minstrel, who usually is a former student of the college, heads the line behind him march two or three broad-shouldered youths who bear the boar's head, mounted on a silver salver. In the old days the head weighed as much as eighty pounds.

Flags and pennants of the college flutter about the head, which is crowned with gilded sprays of rosemary, bay, laurel and other evergreens. A lemon or an orange, the old Norse symbol of plenty, is placed between the tusks.

Behind the bearers of the silver march the surpliced men and boys of the choir and the organist in a robe of an Oxford doctor of music.

On a dais at the end of the dining hall the provost and the principal guests stand. The provost says grace in Latin; the call to dinner is sounded with trumpets through the cloisters and the procession starts through the cloisters.



Origin of the Word Yule. Many explanations are given of the origin of the word Yule. One of the most probable is that it is derived from the ancient Gothic word, jol or hlul, the origin of our word wheel. The Yule festival is said to have received its name from being the turning-point of the year—when the sun apparently turns back from the south and begins to set each evening farther and farther to the north until in June it goes down almost in the northwest. In the old clog almanacs of the Middle Ages a wheel is the device used for marking Yuletide or Christmas.

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